The H-BOMB and YOU

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

November 5th, 1954

Fellow Marylanders:

Even though we hope and pray we will never be subjected to an enemy attack, we must continually prepare ourselves for the worst.

Keeping ourselves informed about the basic techniques for surviving an enemy onslaught can do much to alleviate any blow that might come.

Preparation will help prevent panic, create order among those who must maintain order and instill in each of us the will to go on to victory.

We have every reason to believe that if we are well prepared to withstand an enemy attack, this fact in itself will deter the would-be aggressor.

I hope more and more of us will familiarize ourselves with the problems of Civil Defense as time advances.

Sincerely,

Theodore R. McKeldin

Governor.

EVERYONE HAS HEARD ABOUT THE POWER OF THE HYDROGEN BOMB. LET US LOOK IN AT A SCHOOL WHERE A TEACHER HAS BEEN SHOWING FILMS OF THIS MIGHTY NEW WEAPON...

THAT MUSHROOM ENDS THE FILM. NOW YOU KNOW WHAT AN H-BOMB EXPLOSION IS LIKE!

IT WAS A SWELL FILM, ALL RIGHT, BUT SEEING THAT H-BOMB TEAR APART A MAKE-BELIEVE CITY SEEMED AWFULLY REAL!

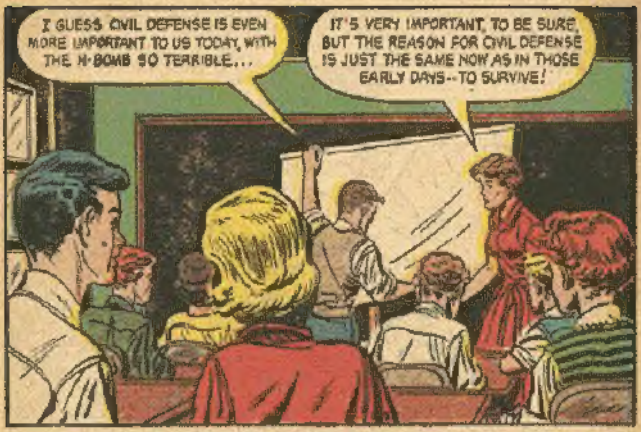
THAT'S WHY WE'RE SHOWING THE FILM, JOHNNY. IT MIGHT BE REAL SOMEDAY IF WE DON'T BUILD A STRONG CIVIL DEFENSE!

WE'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT CIVIL DEFENSE, BUT JUST WHAT IS IT?

"SOME YEARS LATER, SETTLERS KNOWN AS 'MINUTE MEN' WERE ALWAYS ON GUARD TO MEET ANY CHALLENGE TO THEIR HOME FRONT. MINUTE MEN KNEW THAT TO BE SAFE THEMSELVES, THEY HAD TO HELP EACH OTHER..."

HURRY WITH YOUR GUN, NEIGHBOR SMITH IS BEING AMBUSHED!

TO THE RESCUE! IF ONE IS IN DANGER, ALL ARE IN DANGER!


I GUESS CIVIL DEFENSE IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT TO US TODAY, WITH THE H-BOMB SO TERRIBLE...
IT'S VERY IMPORTANT, TO BE SURE, BUT THE REASON FOR CIVIL DEFENSE IS JUST THE SAME NOW AS IN THOSE EARLY DAYS--TO SURVIVE!

BUT IN THAT MOVIE, THE H-BOMB WIPED OUT MOST OF THE CITY. WON'T EVERYONE BE KILLED?
NO, JOHNNY, DON'T EVER BELIEVE SUCH RUMORS. THAT IS THE KIND OF TALK AN ENEMY WOULD HAVE YOU BELIEVE!

IT IS TRUE THAT ATOMIC AND HYDROGEN BOMBS ARE DESTRUCTIVE WEAPONS. IN THE PAST, NO MATTER HOW POWERFUL A NEW WEAPON SEEMED AT FIRST, WAYS WERE ALWAYS FOUND TO OFFSET ITS EFFECTS AND SURVIVE...

"IN WORLD WAR I, NEW USES FOR TNT BROUGHT ABOUT WEAPONS THAT SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE TO STOP..."

THE ENEMY IS DROPPING BOMBS FROM THE SKY. HOW CAN WE EVER SURVIVE!

BE CALM, LADY. WE'LL FIND A WAY. WE MUST FIND A WAY!

WE ALL KNOW WHAT HAPPENED. THOSE BOMBS WHICH AT FIRST SEEMED SO DESTRUCTIVE WERE SOON OUT OF DATE BECAUSE THEY WERE NOT POWERFUL ENOUGH!

"IN WORLD WAR II, THE GERMANS LAUNCHED V-1 AND V-2 ROCKETS AGAINST ENGLAND FROM ACROSS THE CHANNEL...

INTO THE SHELTERS! THE JERRIES ARE AFTER US WITH THAT NEW-FANGLED BUZZ BOMB!

BUZZ-Z-Z-Z-Z

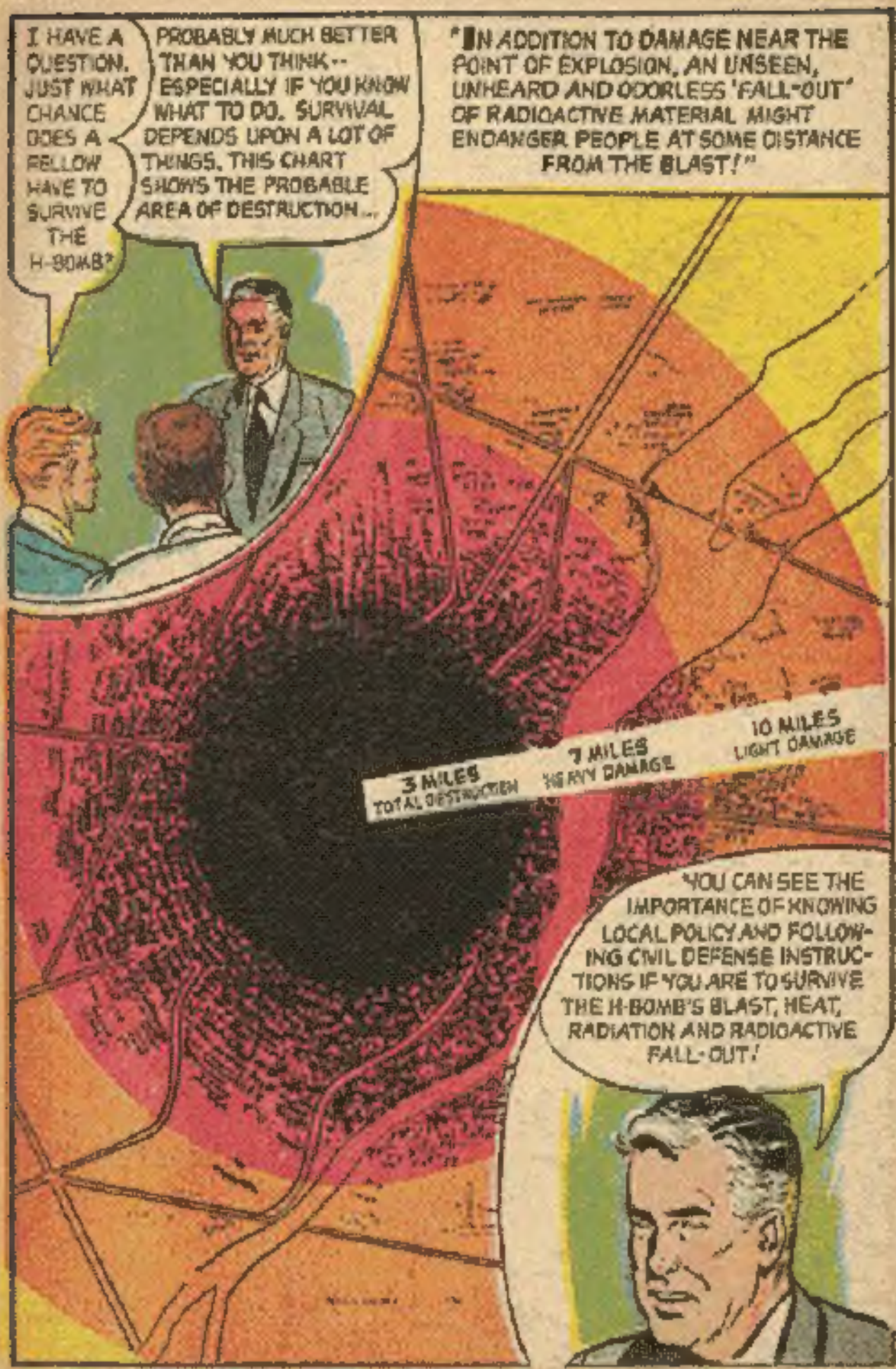
SHELTER

...THE HAUNTING WEAPONS BROUGHT NEW FEARS THAT NO ONE COULD SURVIVE. BUT IN A SHORT TIME, THESE WEAPONS, TOO, WERE OUT-OF-DATE!"

YOU CAN SEE THAT NO MATTER WHAT THE WEAPON IS, THERE IS A DEFENSE AGAINST IT. THE BEST DEFENSE AGAINST THE H-BOMB IS A WELL-TRAINED, ALERT CIVIL DEFENSE TO BACK UP OUR MILITARY FORCES!

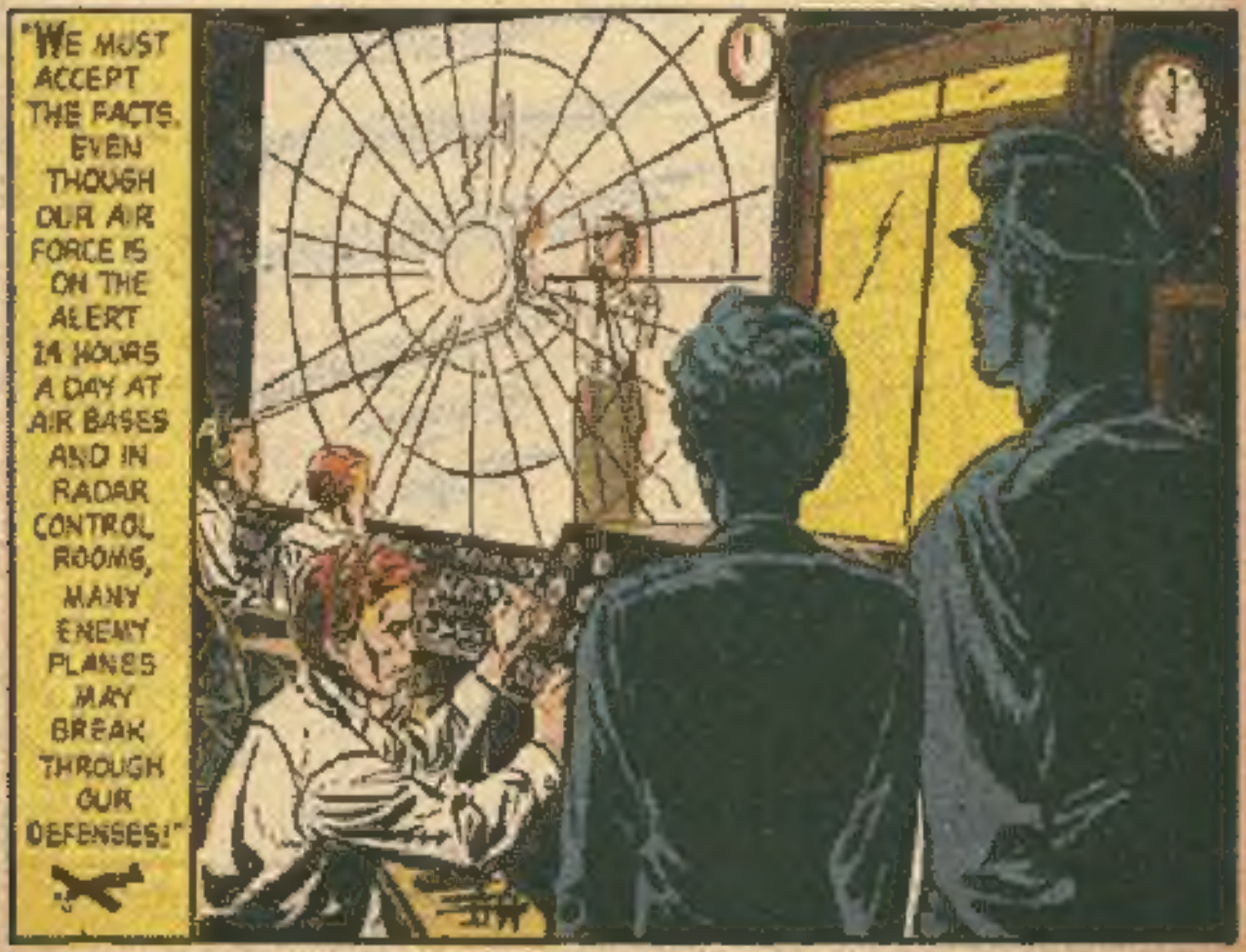
OH, HE'S JUST IN TIME... THERE'S SOMEONE AT THE DOOR I THINK YOU'LL WANT TO KNOW...
KNOCK! KNOCK!

CLASS, THIS GENTLEMAN IS FROM THE LOCAL CIVIL DEFENSE OFFICE. HE IS HERE TO TELL YOU WHAT *YOU* AND *YOUR FAMILY* CAN DO TO HELP!
YOUR TEACHER HAS ALREADY TALKED WITH YOU ABOUT CIVIL DEFENSE, SO I'LL BEGIN BY ANSWERING YOUR QUESTIONS!


I HAVE A QUESTION. JUST WHAT CHANCE DOES A FELLOW HAVE TO SURVIVE THE H-BOMB?
PROBABLY MUCH BETTER THAN YOU THINK -- ESPECIALLY IF YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO. SURVIVAL DEPENDS UPON A LOT OF THINGS. THIS CHART SHOWS THE PROBABLE AREA OF DESTRUCTION...
"IN ADDITION TO DAMAGE NEAR THE POINT OF EXPLOSION, AN UNSEEN, UNHEARD AND ODORLESS 'FALL-OUT' OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL MIGHT ENDANGER PEOPLE AT SOME DISTANCE FROM THE BLAST!"
3 MILES TOTAL DESTRUCTION
7 MILES HEAVY DAMAGE
10 MILES LIGHT DAMAGE
YOU CAN SEE THE IMPORTANCE OF KNOWING LOCAL POLICY AND FOLLOWING CIVIL DEFENSE INSTRUCTIONS IF YOU ARE TO SURVIVE THE H-BOMB'S BLAST, HEAT, RADIATION AND RADIOACTIVE FALL-OUT!

SIR, I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT OUR COUNTRY IS DOING TO PROTECT THE HOME FRONT!
A VERY GOOD QUESTION, YOUNG LADY...

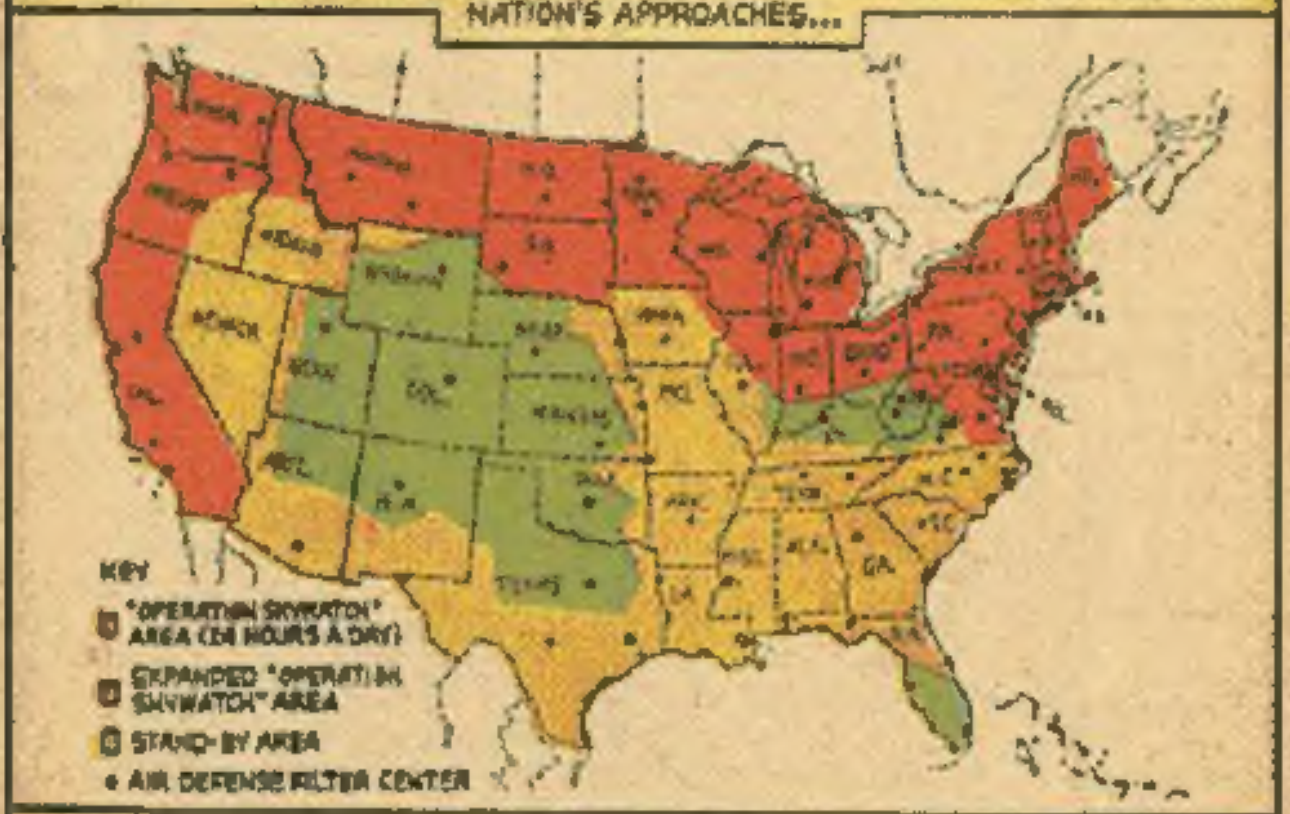
YOUR GOVERNMENT IS PREPARING TO STOP AS MANY ENEMY PLANES AND MISSILES AS POSSIBLE BEFORE THEY REACH THEIR TARGETS, AND TO PROVIDE MAXIMUM PROTECTION AGAINST THOSE WHICH DO GET THROUGH!
THEN WE WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP ALL THE ENEMY PLANES?


"WE MUST ACCEPT THE FACTS, EVEN THOUGH OUR AIR FORCE IS ON THE ALERT 24 HOURS A DAY AT AIR BASES AND IN RADAR CONTROL ROOMS, MANY ENEMY PLANES MAY BREAK THROUGH OUR DEFENSES!"

"WE ARE BUILDING A NETWORK OF PLANES, SHIPS AND MAN-MADE ISLANDS, ALL EQUIPPED WITH RADAR, TO DETECT AND WARN OF ENEMY ATTACK..."

BUT RADAR DETECTION IS NOT ENOUGH. IT IS POSSIBLE FOR ENEMY PLANES TO "SNEAK" THROUGH THE RADAR NET AT LOW ALTITUDE--CLOSE TO THE EARTH. THAT'S WHERE CIVIL DEFENSE VOLUNTEERS COME IN...

"THIS MAP SHOWS THE AREAS WHERE A GROUND OBSERVER CORPS IS OPERATING AT THIS VERY MOMENT WITH CIVILIANS LIKE YOU WATCHING FOR AIRCRAFT ALONG OUR NATION'S APPROACHES...



...THESE VOLUNTEERS ARE THE EYES AND EARS OF THE HOME FRONT!"

WE NEED OVER A MILLION AMERICAN CIVILIANS—MEN, WOMEN, AND BOYS AND GIRLS OF AGES VARYING WITH LOCAL POLICY—TO GIVE 2 TO 4 HOURS EACH WEEK IN THIS IMPORTANT WORK!

"THE GOAL OF THIS 'OPERATION SKYWATCH' IS TO HAVE 24,000 OBSERVATION POSTS FROM WHICH EVERY APPROACHING AIRCRAFT CAN BE SEEN OR HEARD."

"WHEN SKYWATCHERS SPOT AN AIRCRAFT, THEY IMMEDIATELY CALL A HEADQUARTERS OFFICE KNOWN AS A FILTER CENTER. THERE EVERY REPORT IS PLOTTED AND THE PLANE'S FLIGHT IS RELAYED PROMPTLY TO THE NEAREST AIR FORCE INTERCEPT STATION.
"OUR AIM IS TO KEEP AN EYE ON ALL POSSIBLE ROUTES OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT. TODAY NO CITY OR TOWN IN THE UNITED STATES IS OUT OF THE REACH OF ENEMY BOMBERS."

"WE ALL KNOW HOW DISASTROUS WAS THE SNEAK ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR THAT BEGAN WORLD WAR II. WE CANNOT TAKE CHANCES ON ANOTHER SURPRISE LIKE THAT WITH UNDETECTED PLANES RAINING H BOMBS ON AMERICAN CITIES."
"TO PREVENT ANOTHER PEARL HARBOR, OUR MILITARY FORCES ARE ALWAYS ON GUARD. SUPPORTING THE RADAR NET AND GROUND OBSERVER CORPS ARE ALL-WEATHER FIGHTERS, READY 24 HOURS A DAY TO CHALLENGE ANY UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT."
"AND ON THE GROUND ARE ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTERIES DAY AND NIGHT GUARDING TARGET AREAS."
EVEN WITH THIS PROTECTION, IF WORLD WAR III COMES ENEMY PLANES AND MISSILES WILL GET THROUGH TO AMERICAN TARGETS. LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY DAMAGE ARE SURE TO BE HIGH.

WE AMERICANS MUST GET USED TO THE THREAT OF WAR AS A NEW WAY OF LIFE. IT IS NOT OUR CHOICE BUT IT IS OUR DUTY TO BE CONSTANTLY PREPARED IF OUR COUNTRY IS TO SURVIVE!
I'D LIKE TO HELP. IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?
YOU BET THERE IS! THERE'S A JOB FOR EVERYONE IN THE HOME AND MANY COMMUNITIES HAVE SPECIFIC JOBS FOR TEENAGERS WHO HAVE THEIR PARENTS' CONSENT.
YOUR LOCAL CIVIL DEFENSE OFFICE WILL BE GLAD TO TELL YOU A NUMBER OF WAYS YOU CAN HELP. HERE ARE A FEW SPECIFIC JOBS FOR YOU BOYS
YOU CAN DO MESSENGER JOBS AT CIVIL DEFENSE POSTS AND MESSAGE CENTERS
OR HELP IN LIGHT RESCUE WORK
AND YOU CAN DO A REAL SERVICE BY KEEPING MOTHER AND DAD INTERESTED IN CIVIL DEFENSE!
OR ASSIST THE BLOCK WARDEN IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
CIVIL DEFENSE IS YOUR JOB

YOUNG GIRLS ARE NEEDED TOO. BESIDES HELPING YOUR FAMILY RIGHT AT HOME, YOU CAN

WORK IN THE SAFE CENTERS.

WORK AT REGISTRATION CENTERS WHERE BOMBED OUT VICTIMS ARE LISTED.

HELP AT MASS FEEDING LINES.

AND MOST OF YOU MIGHT LIKE TO TAKE THE RED CROSS HOME NURSING COURSE.

"YOUR MOTHER'S JOB OF HOME DEFENSE IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT...

... NEAR YOUR HOME SHELTER SHE SHOULD KEEP A 3 OR 4-DAY SUPPLY OF CANNED FOOD AND DRINKING WATER PLUS OTHER EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT.

SHE SHOULD DISPOSE OF ALL PAPER AND [illegible] TO DECREASE THE CHANCE OF FIRE

AND SHE SHOULD LEARN HOW TO PURIFY WATER AND PUT OUT SMALL FIRES. TELL HER TO CHECK WITH THE LOCAL CIVIL DEFENSE OFFICE TO KNOW WHETHER TO TURN OFF GAS AND ELECTRICITY DURING AN ALERT.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOUR FATHER CAN HELP NOW. HE CAN JOIN THE GROUND OBSERVER CORPS OR..."

...VOLUNTEER FOR FIRE AGENCY RESCUE SERVICE

VOLUNTEER FOR WARDEN SERVICE IN YOUR HOME NEIGHBORHOOD.

AND IF YOU LIVE WITHIN 15 MILES OF A TARGET AREA IT WOULD BE WISE TO BUILD A SHELTER IN THE BASEMENT OR YARD OF YOUR HOME!"

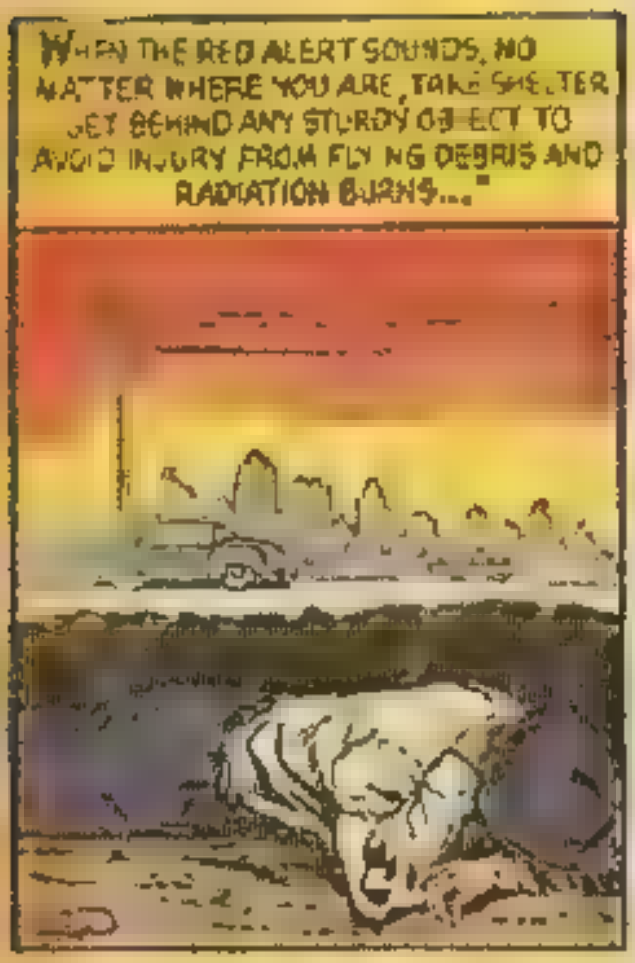
"TESTS HAVE PROVED THERE ARE SEVERAL KINDS OF HOME SHELTERS WHICH WILL HELP TO PROTECT AGAINST BLAST AND HEAT...

...THE LEAN-TO SHELTER BUILT IN YOUR BASEMENT OFFERS CONSIDERABLE PROTECTION.

...THE BASEMENT EXIT TYPE SHELTER WITH AN OUTSIDE EXIT IS GOOD BECAUSE IT ALLOWS ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE

THE BEST HOME SHELTER IS ONE OF CONCRETE OR CINDER BLOCK BUILT UNDER GROUND IN THE YARD AWAY FROM BUILDINGS AND FREE FROM GAS LINES AND ELECTRICAL WIRING

ALL YOU APARTMENT DWELLERS SHOULD KNOW WHERE THE SHELTER AREA IS IN YOUR BUILDING


WHEN THE RED ALERT SOUNDS, NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE, TAKE SHELTER GET BEHIND ANY STURDY OBJECT TO AVOID INJURY FROM FLYING DEBRIS AND RADIATION BURNS..."

THE H-BOMB WILL CAUSE HEAVY CASUALTIES. DOCTORS AND NURSES WILL BE BUSY AT HOSPITALS AND CASUALTY CLEARING STATIONS, THEREFORE IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR EVERYONE TO KNOW HOW TO GIVE FIRST AID...

"THE FIRST AID COURSE GIVEN BY THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IS ONE OF THE BEST AVAILABLE. THIS VALUABLE TRAINING IS FREE. TAKE THE RED CROSS COURSE SO YOU WILL KNOW WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY - WHETHER IT BE IN PEACE OR WAR!"

IF THERE'S ENOUGH WARNING WOULDN'T IT BE A GOOD IDEA TO GET OUT OF TOWN BEFORE THE ATTACK COMES?
YES. IN THAT CASE, MANY CIVIL DEFENSE OFFICIALS PLAN TO EVACUATE ALL OR PART OF THE PEOPLE FROM TARGET AREAS AS SOON AS THERE'S A WARNING...

UNLESS AN EARLIER WARNING CAN BE GIVEN THAN IS NOW POSSIBLE, SOME CITIES WILL BE UNABLE TO MOVE THE PEOPLE OUT AND WILL HAVE TO DEPEND ON SHELTERS. FIND OUT WHAT YOUR LOCAL CIVIL DEFENSE PLANS TO DO AND COOPERATE!

"IN CASE OF ATTACK, TUNE IN YOUR REGULAR AM RADIO. TELEVISION STATIONS WILL BE OFF THE AIR. A PLAN KNOWN AS 'CONELRAD' WILL GO INTO EFFECT SO THAT YOU WILL GET OFFICIAL RADIO BROADCASTS ONLY FROM 640 OR 1240...
...EVEN IF YOU LIVE AWAY OUT IN THE COUNTRY, YOUR QUICKEST SOURCE OF OFFICIAL INSTRUCTION TO TAKE SHELTER OR EVACUATE A PROBABLE FALLOUT AREA WILL BE THROUGH CONELRAD!"

"...MARK THOSE NUMBERS ON YOUR AM RADIO DIAL. I REPEAT, 640 AND 1240 ARE THE ONLY PLACES YOU WILL BE ABLE TO RECEIVE OFFICIAL CIVIL DEFENSE INFORMATION DURING AN ATTACK. ANY OTHER BROADCASTS MIGHT BE THE WORK OF THE ENEMY!"
1240
640

IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP CALM IF THERE IS A WARNING OF ATTACK. DO NOT REPEAT RUMORS!

YOU'VE SHOWN US THE IMPORTANCE OF CIVIL DEFENSE ALL RIGHT. YOU CAN COUNT ON US TO GET PERMISSION FROM MOM AND DAD TO HELP!

I KNEW YOU'D HELP. GET EVERYONE ELSE YOU KNOW TO HELP, TOO. NO MATTER WHERE YOU LIVE—CITY, VILLAGE OR FARM—THERE'S A JOB TO BE DONE!

A MESSAGE

SHERLEY EWING, State Civil Defense Director

The problems of the nuclear age are not insurmountable. In fact, if we have an alert, well-trained Civil Defense organization in each of our cities and counties, there will be no need to live in fear of an enemy attack.

I know that after reading this booklet you will want to contact your local Civil Defense Director. Therefore, we have listed their names and addresses below:

Baltimore City	Col. Frank Milani	Room 419, City Hall, Balto. 2, Md.	Plaza 3-3000 Ext. 721
Allegany County	William G. Berger	715 LaVale Terrace, Cumberland, Md.	Cumberland 2850
Anne Arundel County	Col. Thos. Watts	Court House, Annapolis, Md.	Colonial 3-2763
Baltimore County	Rev. P. Bolton	201 W. Chesapeake Ave., Towson 4, Md.	Valley 5-1014
Calvert County	Henry Poehler	Prince Frederick, Md.	Northbeach 3304
Caroline County	Edward Sparks	Box 301, Denton, Md.	Ridgely 2251
Carroll County	W. Warfield Babylon	Box 223, Westminster, Maryland	Westminster 100
Cecil County	John J. Ward	250 E. Main St., Elkton, Md.	Elkton 287
Charles County	Mrs. Mary L. Walker	Court House, LaPlata, Md.	LaPlata 2727, Ext. 20
Dorchester County	A. LeRoy Willey	Dorchester Ave., Cambridge, Md.	Cambridge 1938
Frederick County	J. Roger Fisher	Winchester Hall, Frederick, Md.	Monument 3-6661
Garrett County	John S. Elliott	Little Crossings, Grantsville, Md.	Grantsville 51-013
Harford County	Paul H. Seward	18 Office Street, Bel Air, Maryland	Bel Air 1179
Howard County	Herbert C. Brown	Court House Annex, Ellicott City, Md.	Ellicott City 840
Kent County	Lt. Col. Harry Russell	Box 229, Chestertown, Maryland	Chestertown 1
Montgomery County	Mason Batchler	Court House, Rockville, Maryland	Poplar 2-2121
Prince George's County	P. E. Clark	Court House, Upper Marlboro, Maryland	Market 7-3361
Queen Anne's County	Leonard Renshaw	P. O. Box 504, Centreville, Md.	Centreville 581
Somerset County	Col. Littleton T. Dryden	Crisfield, Maryland	Crisfield 232
St. Mary's County	M. Chapman Thompson, Jr.	Leonardtown, Md.	Greenwood 5-2021
Talbot County	Evan B. Hutt	County Building, Easton, Md.	Easton 1771
Washington County	Charles L. Mobley	County Commissioners Office, Court House, Hagerstown, Maryland	Hagerstown 778
Wicomico County	John L. Morris	P. O. Box 199, Salisbury, Md.	Salisbury 5125
Worcester County	Clerk of County Commissioners	County Comm. Office, Court House, Snow Hill, Md.	Snow Hill 38

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